

Marian Harkin TD  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2.

9th March 2021

**PQ /21/12686 – To ask the Minister for Health his plans to facilitate the vaccination of those who due to medical conditions are housebound or do not have anyone available to bring them to their general practitioner or vaccination centres; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Marian Harkin**

Deputy Harkin,

The HSE is fully committed to ensuring all over 70's patients gain access to the COVID-19 vaccine as required. Existing "Community Call" transport arrangements will continue to ensure members of the over 70's cohort (commencing with the > 85 sub-cohort) who require support can attend their GP practice to receive the vaccine when scheduled.

There are a small number of older people who, due to illness or frailty, are housebound and cannot avail of the existing 'community call' arrangements to attend the GP practice. The HSE is putting in place a standardised approach to ensure that arrangements are in place to ensure that those patients over 70 and are housebound receive the vaccine. The HSE on the 4th March issued correspondence to GPs asking them to identify those who are housebound so that arrangements can be made in conjunction with the National Ambulance Service for these people to be vaccinated at home.

Yours sincerely,



---

**Geraldine Crowley,  
Assistant National Director,  
Primary Care Strategy and Planning**



Seirbhís Sláinte  
Níos Fearr  
á Forbairt

Building a  
Better Health  
Service

# *Community Strategy & Planning*